

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**“When it comes to blending magic with the mundane routines of life, there’s no finer writer than Alice Hoffman – but even she has outdone herself with her latest novel. *The Story Sisters* hearkens back to the classic fairy tale, where one must suffer fear and loss before stumbling upon a happy ending. Hoffman reminds us with every sentence that words have the power to transport us to alternate worlds, to heal a broken heart, and to tie us irrevocably to the people we love.”**

**~ Jodi Picoult**

**ALICE HOFFMAN**

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***THE STORY SISTERS***

**“The always dazzling Hoffman has outdone herself in this bewitching weave of psychologically astute fantasy and shattering realism. . . . Her alluring characters are soulful, their suffering mythic, and though the sorrows are many and the body count high, this is an entrancing and romantic drama shot through with radiant beauty and belief in human resilience and transformation.”**

**~ *Booklist* (starred)**

**“Hoffman’s prose is as lovely as ever: the imagined and real worlds of the Story sisters are rich and clear.”**

**~ *Publishers Weekly***

In her spellbinding novels, *New York Times* bestselling author Alice Hoffman weaves magic and fairy tales into plots thick with today’s gritty realism. This combination is on dazzling display in her twenty-first novel, **THE STORY SISTERS** (Shaye Areheart Books; June 2, 2009; \$25.00), a heartbreaking yet redemptive family saga.

Elisabeth (Elv for short), Meg, and Claire are the three beautiful, black-haired Story sisters, who live on Long Island with their divorced mother, Annie. Their close bond and happy lives are altered irrevocably one day when Elv and Meg share an encounter with a stranger. They swear themselves to secrecy and attempt to overcome the trauma as best they can, but Elv retreats further into the fairytale world she creates. Annie doesn't understand Elv's suffering and by the time she does realize what is happening with her eldest daughter and tries to help it is too late. Elv will have to live with the choices she has made and the consequences of her actions, some of them tragic, will affect her entire family.

As the girls grow into young women, they take separate paths. They turn for help and solace to their beloved grandmother, Natalia, who lives in Paris. It is in her loving home that Claire, rendered mute by the suffering of her family, finally finds her voice and a way to face the future. Slowly, the beauty of Paris and the love of those closest to them -- along with a certain long-legged young Frenchman and an innocent little girl -- help the Story family find salvation.

Throughout the novel, the shimmering beauty of the natural world to which the girls are so attuned -- bees, moths, flowers, trees, storms, birds, heat waves, snow, and the night sky -- along with the rhythm of the changing seasons remind the reader of a realm beyond the human. It is a realm of the senses, of memory, and of story-telling.

There are few writers who capture the power and redemption of love like Alice Hoffman. With **THE STORY SISTERS** she remains in top form, spinning a masterful tale that will leave the reader stunned, yet hopeful, ever more aware of the fragility and beauty of life.

Visit [www.alicehoffman.com](http://www.alicehoffman.com)

**THE STORY SISTERS**

Shaye Areheart Books \* June 2, 2009

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Now Available in Paperback from Three Rivers Press:

**THE THIRD ANGEL \* ISBN: 978-0-307-40595-1 \* \$14.95**

